

1/4 - about James & Henry - Sir - at Whitehall
+ Dec 29 - June

James Gillman, Esq.

Highgate

London



RINGSBATE
12

P.00.61.41

Thursday
29. Welington Crescent

My dear Friend

As Mr Alexander Johnston who leaves Ringsgate on Saturday morning, will take a packet for me, I shall have delayed this letter but that Mrs Gillman begins to be anxious at the no-knocks or barren knocks of the Post man, and lest you should wonder at not hearing from us. The best thing, however, that I have to communicate - if what better could I have is the prospect ~~and~~ the more sure, I trust, because slow progression in Mrs Gillman's health I am convinced that if circumstances rendered feasible, if any change of circumstance should hereafter enable you to arrange it so as that she could stay long enough for the Basin to be once refilled, she would begin a new lease of life. For the first month or 5 weeks it was not easy to distinguish between the temporary and capricious effects of change of air, and sea bathing, and a true addition to her strength. Now, I was at home fearful, that the less desirable interfection ~~was~~ the more probable ones those doubts are now fully removed. She can sit up much longer - indeed, between rising and bedtime she does not need above an hour's resting on the sofa, and even during the time that weight on her eyelids, embarkment of sight, and sleeping from debility are greatly diminished - and her own feelings correspond to the improvement in her looks. The progress is indeed barley-corn by barley-corn, but it is steady. - As to Miss Bradley, she is almost in robust health. Eliza has little sore throat - a slight inflammation in the glands, I believe. I have advised her to discontinue Bathing, to which indeed in her case I was never friendly. Thinking it superfluous, at the best. James looks well - and is in good spirits. I have not felt myself justified in returning an answer to his Mother's question - whether it would be advisable to prolong his stay here after the beginning of

next week. For I don't disguise from myself, that without
the immediate stimulus of his School Duties he cannot bring himself
to sit down to any thing. and the habit even of innocent dissipation
is not invariable. Heavy & goes on well. he complains of his head
this morning, & was evidently unwell - but a dose of salts appears to
have set him right again. I flatter myself, he with relation to
thoroughly grounded in his Greek grammar, and in regular parsing,
as that it will require culpable neglect on the part of his instructor,
to hinder his loving it again. I have found much less difficulty
in making him understand the true meaning and intent of
the Tenses and their two-fold relation to the Act and to the
Time of the Act, than I had or indeed could have anticipated.

For myself, all I can say is that I have with advantage
omitted walking for some days. Sir Thomas Gray had twice
advised me so to do he regarded the refreshment and
ease that followed walking as delusive, and that it was
more than counterbalanced by the tendency to increased action
on the chest, and bronchitis - or what he called, a state of passive
inflammation. I suppose, I suppose, certainly, I have not
expected nearly so much since I have contented myself with
the low walk of the Cliff, sand, and pier. - I met the Doctors
(Mr Colby brother of daughter) Arbuthnot, Deshauxes, Mr Marginal,
at Mr St. Andrew's last night. a musical of music. I wish
it was some part of my time to answer Mr St. John's notes to
Colby's etc. of which I receive one - my son in answer. I will
send you a specimen by James. One cannot be paid me, and I will
manifestly on how which I really felt. I had been near on the
"course of my life received so much and so valuable information
from any man as from you. It is not this, however, that I shall
"most remember you by; but that every hour, I have left you, I have
"felt myself a better man." I received this to you. and Mr Gullman's
esteemed request - He ^{has} shifted to the Lower House of the Colonade,
No 29 - next end of Wellington Crescent, next to Nelson Place. When this

Word a Suite, or Suite lost, and strong, it requires a strong man to
shut the Door again when opened, & the House is taken by storm - Likewise,
The chimney smokes on occasions. At the top, it is roomier, pleasanter,
& above all, better bedded. Mr G. has it for a purpose a week
and to the sorrow of my ears it has a piano forte in it, which
James takes great delight in strumming - not to speak of the
after dinner dancing, to which the liveliest were in the midst of
little dances on equal terms, in the room below where I dance
often. - But they are happy, God bless them!

I have had a laugh at Mr Gullman, on account of a
Case of Strong Beer from Dover which she took me & paid her
Carriage for, because it was directed to, Mrs Gilbert,
Waterloo Place, ^(no number marked) and Mrs Gilbert was so like Mr Gullman
and Mr Gullman had lived at No. 11 Waterloo Place
and here the Barrel Remains & perhaps may travel to
Hedgegate, ^{as a good deal} I have written to the Man at Dover.

Here comes one of Sir Alexander's Orientalists, he has
with an A.L.B.M. and a petitionary Note from
the young ladies to have it with a few lines in my own
hand, which, as a recommendation for it. Now this is one of the
Grievances under the Sun which King Solomon did not
foresee - If the first syllable (indeed the sum total of these proceedings
M.S.) were applied to the lady, it would be an affront to
a Christian Prince. since Clemler is next to Godhead in